

Message Text

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14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157420

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN DEMARCHE ON UNESCO

REF: AMMAN 4094

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NOTE FOR EMBASSY REPLY TO
JORDANIAN DEMARCHE: "THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FULLY
SHARES THE HIGH VALUE WHICH THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
PLACES ON UNESCO'S HUMANITARIAN MISSION, AS WELL AS THE
INTEREST AND CONCERN FELT BY ALL NATIONS REGARDING THE
NEED TO PROTECT THE MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL SITES IN
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JERUSALEM, WHETHER THEY BE CHRISTIAN, MOSLEM, OR JEWISH,

AND HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THESE POSITIONS AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO. IT IS THEREFORE DEEPLY DISTRESSING TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT UNESCO'S MISSION, INCLUDING THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL SITES, MAY BE GRAVELY IMPAIRED WHEN POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS LEAD THE ORGANIZATION INTO TAKING IMPROPER ACTION AGAINST A MEMBER STATE. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS CONFIDENT THAT THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN SHARES ITS BELIEF THAT UNESCO IS NOT THE PROPER FORUM FOR CONSIDERATION OF POLITICAL ISSUES AND THAT THESE ARE BEST LEFT FOR DISCUSSION BY THE APPROPRIATE ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. IT IS EARNESTLY HOPED THAT THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN WILL JOIN WITH THE UNITED STATES IN WORKING TOWARD RESTORING UNESCO TO ITS FORMER VIGOR AND THE POSITION OF CONFIDENCE WHICH

IT OCCUPIED AMONG INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. WHAT IS NEEDED IS A RENEWAL OF PURPOSE FOR UNESCO AND A REDEDICATION TO THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN IN ITS CONSTITUTION. INGERSOLL

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